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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/552,555	05/26/2006	Reinhold Eichhorn	02894-728US1 06609-PT2/co	6680
26161 7590 05/07/2010 FISH & RICHARDSON PC P.O. BOX 1022 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55440-1022				
EXAMINER				
LEE, LAURA MICHELLE				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
3724				
NOTIFICATION DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
05/07/2010		ELECTRONIC		

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

PATDOCTC@fr.com

### Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

10/552,555

**Applicant(s)**

EICHHORN ET AL.

**Examiner**

LAURA M. LEE

**Art Unit**

3724

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 April 2010.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 3-7, 9-10, 12-32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 4, 9, 10, 12, 15, 18, 19, 23, 24, 30 and 32 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB06)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ ~~Notes of Informal Patent Application~~
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114 was filed in this application after appeal to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences, but prior to a decision on the appeal. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114 and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the appeal has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114 and prosecution in this application has been reopened pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 4/23/2010 has been entered. Claims 1, 3-7, 9-10, 12-32 are pending, claims 30-32 are new, claims 1 and 3 are currently amended, and claims 3, 5-7, 13-14, 16-17, 20-22, 25-29 are withdrawn.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1, 4, 9,10,12, 15, 18, 19, 23, 24, 30 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Saito et al. (U.S. Patent 7,150,285), herein referred to as Saito in view of Muraguchi et al. (U.S. Patent 6,430,813), herein referred to as Muraguchi and in further view of Chang (U.S. Patent 5,321,349). Saito discloses an electric shaver system comprising:

a shaver (10; Figures 4/5) having: a shaving head (12); and electrical motor (not shown) mechanically connected to the shaving head; and a battery (15) electrically connected to the motor;

and a shaver cleaner/ cleaning and charging station(Figure 6) configured to hold a quantity of cleaning fluid (cleaning liquid) and defining a trough-shaped receptacle (basin, 50) configured to receive the shaving head of the shaver therein (Figure 2);

wherein the shaver (10) includes a first connector (pads, 13/ receiving terminal 11) that couples with an associated connector (transmitting terminal, 91; Figure 6) of the shaver cleaner to transmit charging energy and control signals between the shaver cleaner and the shaver (see at least col. 6, lines 31-42).

Although it appears that Saito discloses wherein the shaver includes an additional connector, spaced apart from the first connector and configured to connect the battery to an auxiliary power source, a connector is not positively disclosed. As shown in Figure 1, the bottom of the shaver shows a square opening, which the approximate size and shape and location of known electrical connectors, however, as the Saito does not comment on this feature it would be speculative to assume that that feature is an electrical connector. However, it is old and well known in the art to utilize an electrical connector to directly attach the shaving unit to a power source. Attention is further directed to the Muraguchi shaver which also discloses a motorized shaver that utilizes a battery power source. Muraguchi discloses providing charge terminals, in the bottom of the shaver, as similarly (arguably) shown by Saito in order to recharge the batteries through a connection to a charger. Attention is also directed to the Chang reference.

Chang discloses a rechargeable/portable DC power supply. The rechargeable battery can be situated within a housing for engaging with the re-energizing source or can be directly connected to the powering source. Chang discloses providing the rechargeable battery with a plurality of sockets to be mated with different plugs on different electrical applications. Saito and Muraguchi therefore teach that it is known in the prior art to locate power sockets on electric shavers at several locations with the purpose of at least recharging the rechargeable battery with a variety of power sources. Chang alternatively teaches providing a plurality of sockets on the same power supply body for similarly providing for various means of recharging the internal battery. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to combine the socket locations as shown by Saito and Chang onto a single electric shaver/body as taught by Chang to increase the number of ways and stations that the electric shaver could be employed with to recharge the internal rechargeable battery, especially as both locations were already known in the prior art, and thereby the shaver could be charged directly without the use of the cleaner apparatus. Commercially, this allows for the electric shaver to be more marketable, being useable with various charging stands and not necessarily only the one being supplied with the cleaning device. Thus, the Saito electric shaver would not necessarily need to be sold only with the Saito cleaning device to be able to recharge the battery, but other less complex charging stations would also be possible.

The modified device of Saito discloses wherein the additional connector (96) is an electrical plug-type connection.

4. Claims 31 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Saito et al. (U.S. Patent 7,150,285), herein referred to as Saito in view of Muraguchi et al. (U.S. Patent 6,430,813), herein referred to as Muraguchi and in further view of Chang (U.S. Patent 5,321,349) and in further view of Daniels (U.S. Patent 3,710,224) The modified device of Saito does not disclose that the same power cord that powers the cleaning and charging station can be used for powering the dry shaving apparatus. However, attention is directed to the Daniels reference which discloses a shaver with rechargeable batteries. Daniels discloses that the batteries can be re-energized by a power pack (14) which plugs into the shaver or alternatively into a stand which supports the shaver. The power pack is connected by a power cord into a standard wall outlet. Thus Daniels teaches that is well known to use the same power supply to supply power directly to the apparatus or directly to the stand with the same end result of recharging the batteries of the shaver. It similarly would have been obvious to have designed the shaver of Saito to accept the same power plug as used to power the cleaning and charging station to minimize the needed accessories to recharge the batteries in the various configurations.

### ***Response to Arguments***

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 4, 9, 10, 12, 15, 18, 19, 23, 24, 30- 32 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

***Conclusion***

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LAURA M. LEE whose telephone number is (571)272-8339. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 8:00am to 4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Boyer Ashley can be reached on (571) 272-4502. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Laura M Lee/  
Examiner, Art Unit 3724  
05/03/2010